

## Buddhist Preacher System: Promotes Buddhism in New Era

### 佛教傳教士體系 佛教邁向新時代

Rev. George Hua LIN

林覺海

Email: linhua038@aliyun.com

Buddhism has been mainly developed in East Asia and the following countries are having the large number of Buddhist population; China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Vietnam, Lao, Cambodia, Thailand, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bhutan, etc. In the remaining area small number of Buddhist population exists.

佛教主要發展區域為亞洲東部，佛教徒人口比例較大的國家為：中國、日本、韓國、蒙古、越南、老撾、柬埔寨、泰國、新加坡、斯里蘭卡、緬甸、不丹等國。在世界其餘大部分地區，佛教影響較小。

Buddhism was introduced to China about 2000 years ago, which combined with some thoughts of Taoism and Confucianism. Mahayana Buddhism became one of main Religions in China. Later on Buddhism spread into Tibet, China on 5 AD, along with local Bon Religion and Tibetan culture, which remains with its own characteristics. Buddhism has special characteristic.

Buddhism went into Southeast Asia and Sri Lanka 2500 years ago. Theravada Buddhism still preserve well.

佛教於東漢初年傳入中國，結合了中國的道教和儒教的部分思想，漢傳佛教成為中國的主流宗教之一。佛教西元五世紀傳入中國西

藏地區，與當地的苯教及藏族傳統文化結合，形成了有特色的藏傳佛教。佛教 2500 年前傳入東南亞地區及斯里蘭卡，傳統上座部佛教得以很好保存。

In China, after Ming Dynasty (after 1368 AD) the emperor established the Monk Officer System (Sangha Administration System) to manage the Mahayana monks. Though Zen and Pure Land Buddhism are still popular. Buddhist thought develop less.

在中國，進入明朝以後，朝廷設立僧官管理漢傳佛教，雖然禪宗、淨土宗還在流行，但佛教思想已發展很少。

During Qing Dynasty (after 1636 AD), Mahayana monks only do chanting and meditation. There's no great master. The Most Ven. Tai Xu who was a very famous monk on early 20 century has said thus;

'Still worse than Qing Dynasty, Mahayana Buddhism go down really. Now it almost died. Now the Western culture come into East Asia, Chinese academic are far behind and Buddhism is really far behind.'

滿清漢地的僧侶，除參禪、念佛之外，幾乎無事可做，佛教僧侶中無有傑出人物。太虛大師曾經感慨：“迨乎前清，其（佛教）衰也始真衰矣。迨乎近今，其衰也，始衰而瀕於亡矣。從全球運開，泰西文明過渡東亞，我國之政教學術莫不瞠焉其後，而佛教實後而尤後者。”

On 21 century, China Economy grows fast but the growing of Buddhism seems slow. Now Buddhism is more like a culture

phenomenon. Almost 40000 temples are in countryside, yet only some monks try to do some Buddhist contributions and those who take part of these events seem sincere Buddhists. Though some monks try some way and do some events, most of the participants are sincere Buddhist.

進入 21 世紀，中國經濟得到了高速發展，佛教的發展，和經濟的發展卻不相應，佛教更多的成為了一個文化現象，4 萬多座佛教寺院大部分在鄉村地區。儘管一些法師對佛教的發展，做了一些嘗試，舉辦了一些活動，但其面對對象大部分是虔誠的佛教徒。

According to the online resources, in 2010 about 18% people in mainland China consider them self as Buddhists, that is about 240 million. But only 1.7% are getting the formal procedure and having the monk teachers. We can say only 23 million on mainland China are Buddhist on religious standard. Some master think the Buddhist number on religious standard are 50 million that is only less than 4 % of China population.

根據在網路上得到的資料，2010 年中國大陸地區有 18% 的人自我認同為佛教信仰者，這就意味著中國大陸地區有約 2.4 億的佛教信仰者。但是，只有 1.7% 的人是“三皈依”的信徒，也就是說中國大陸地區只有 2300 萬人是正式皈依的佛教信仰者。也有佛教大師認為，正式皈依的佛教信仰者為 5000 萬左右，這也只占中國總人口不到 4%。

As mentioned above, there are about 40000 temples in China. Those who intend to be a monk seem very less. There are about 100000

Chinese Mahayana monks and nuns. Concerning its average it is 2-3 monks or nuns in each temple. Many Buddhist colleges in nationwide are unable to recruit enough student.

目前中國有佛教寺院四萬多處。但社會精英人士很少願意出家，漢傳僧人總數僅十萬人左右。平均每個寺院只有 2-3 個僧人。許多佛學院招不到多少學生，僧才極其缺乏。

In many other countries, there is a similar problem, only the difference on serious scale.

其他許多國家也出現了類似情況，只是嚴重程度不同而已。

According to the problems above, some world Buddhist leaders suggest to have a great reform and to found Buddhist Preacher System.

有鑒於此，部分世界佛教領袖大發菩提心，建議做重大變革，建立佛教傳教士體系。

Buddhist Preachers are not traditional monks. If we say traditional monks are similar to Catholic Monks, then Buddhist Preachers are similar to Christian Priests.

佛教傳教士不是傳統的佛教僧人。可以打個比方，若傳統佛教僧人類似於天主教神父的話，佛教傳教士則類似於基督教的牧師。

Buddhist Preachers will not live in the temples long time normally. They will mainly promote Buddhism on the society and on life. This way will help Buddhism reform and spreading to the whole world.

佛教傳教士一般不長住寺院，主要在社區裏、在生活裏弘揚佛法。

這樣有利於，佛教由寺院佛教、法事佛教到城市佛教、文化佛教的轉變，有利於佛教在世界各地的傳播。

Buddhist Preachers will help Buddhism merge with modern world. Enable people to enjoy the good life while increasing life realm, Emphasis on ethical humanism, attaches great importance to the ecological environmental protection and nature more harmonious.

佛教傳教士讓佛教與現代化結合，使人類在享受美好生活的同時，提升生命境界，強調倫理人文，重視生態環保與自然更加和諧。

Buddhist Preacher System is easier to be accepted by West countries society and promote Buddhism development on the west countries. Buddhist development on the west countries, may promote the Buddhism merge with Christianity (including Catholic, Protestants, Orthodox) and west countries culture. And it may found the WEST BUDDHISM.

佛教傳教士系統更易被西方社會接受，而推動佛教在西方的發展。佛教在歐美的發展，可能可以推動佛教與基督教（包括：天主教、新教、聖公會、東正教）及西方文化的融合，而形成西傳佛教。

The following world Buddhist leaders have signed the Proposal of Buddhist Preacher System,

以下世界佛教領袖簽署了建立佛教傳教士體系的倡議書，

Most Ven. Dr. Kumarabhivamsa

Chairman of State Sangha Committee, Myanmar

緬甸佛教僧伽會主席

His Holiness Bour Kry

The Great Supreme Patriarch of Dhammayuttikanikaya, Cambodia

柬埔寨布格裏大僧王

Most Ven. Maha Phong Samareuk

President of Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organization, Lao

老撾佛教會主席

The Most Ven. Udugama Sri Buddharakkhita Maha Nayake Thero,

Asgiriya Maha Viharaya, Kandy, Sri Lanka

斯里蘭卡 Asgiriya 教派大僧王

The Most Ven. Niyangoda Vijithasiri

Anynayaka Thero of Malwatta Chapter, Sri Lanka

斯里蘭卡 Malwatta 教派副僧王

The Most Ven. Phraphrommethee

Member of Sangha Supreme Council, Thailand

泰國最高僧伽會 拍蓬美提大長老

The Most Ven. D. Natsagdorj

President of Mongolia Buddhist Association

蒙古佛教會主席

The Most Ven. Thich Tri Quang

The Deputy President of Vietnamese Buddhist Sangha

越南佛教僧伽會副主席 釋智廣長老

